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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 179
By Clem

A RESOLUTION To honor and congratulate the Chattanooga Christian School Chargers on winning the 2000-01 TSSAA Class A Boys Basketball State Championship.

WHEREAS, Periodically, an athletic team achieves magnificent accomplishments in such an admirable manner that they command the respect of all Tennesseans and bring honor to this State; and

WHEREAS, During the 2000-01 season, the Chargers of Chattanooga Christian School became one such estimable team and, in doing so, earned the title of TSSAA Class A State Champions; and

WHEREAS, The Chargers compiled a remarkable record that included 30 wins and just seven losses; they were undefeated in District 6-A and against all competition in their classification, losing only to schools with much larger student bodies; and

WHEREAS, Following the regular season, Chattanooga Christian blitzed through the postseason gauntlet; along the way, they claimed the tournament championships of District 6-A and Region 3-A; and

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WHEREAS, In their Substate Game, the Chargers defeated Friendship Christian to earn a berth in the TSSAA State Tournament and keep alive the possibility of capturing the program's first state title; and

WHEREAS, In the tournament's opening game, the Chargers thrilled all who were present with a spectacular come-from-behind victory over traditional power University School of Jackson to advance to the Final Four; and

WHEREAS, Against Alcoa, Chattanooga Christian overcame a double-digit deficit with a dramatic charge to claim a 49-47 victory and earn the right to play for the State Championship; and

WHEREAS, The character and resolve displayed in the tournament's first two rounds would prove to be of vital importance to the Chargers in the championship game; they faced a formidable challenge in the form of the Ezell-Harding Eagles, who had lost only to Class AAA Northeast High School and were talented and confident, enjoying a 31-game winning streak; and

WHEREAS, From start to finish, Chattanooga Christian struggled from the floor, but they called upon their vast reserves of fortitude to keep the Eagles within reach; and

WHEREAS, As the game's final seconds ticked away, the Chargers once again refused to be denied victory, and they seized the lead with only seconds remaining; in the face of Chattanooga Christian's stifling defense, Ezell-Harding's final, desperation shot was unsuccessful, and the Chattanooga Christian bench and cheering section erupted in celebration of a State Championship; and

WHEREAS, This laudable basketball team attained its magnificent success through much hard work and tremendous teamwork; that teamwork provided an opportunity to showcase the vast talents of the individuals who comprised the squad; and

WHEREAS, Jason Holwerda, two-time Mr. Basketball, earned recognition as District 4—A Most Valuable Player, and he was joined on the All-District Team by Tyler Fordice and Martin

Trimiew; they were also selected as members of the District 4-A and Region 3-A All-Tournament Teams, with Mr. Holwerda earning recognition as Most Valuable Player in each of those tournaments; and

WHEREAS, At the conclusion of the Chargers' victorious appearance in the TSSAA Class AAA State Tournament, Mr. Holwerda was once again honored as Most Valuable Player, and Mr. Trimiew and Jonathan Cook also were named to the prestigious State Championship All-Tournament Team; and

WHEREAS, In addition to these achievements, the most impressive honor garnered by any of the Chattanooga Christian players was one that they can all claim - the title of State Champions; the young men who earned that title were Dallas Cole, Jonathan Cook, Tyler Fordice, Chris Henegar, Jason Holwerda, Ira Lewis, John Mason, Josh Paul, Jesse Pettit, Martin Trimiew, and Ben Wharton; and

WHEREAS, These talented young men were ably guided by Coach Eddie Salter and Assistant Coach Brian Kroeze, who laid the foundation for the Chargers' immense success by sharing their substantial knowledge and love of basketball with the team; and

WHEREAS, The coaches and players received much assistance from the team's managers, Lauren Cox, Annie Gildernew, and Marcus Haynie; and

WHEREAS, Head Master Don Holwerda, Principal Tom Kamp and Athletic Director John Visser greatly contributed to the Chargers' success by providing their fullest support to the basketball program; and

WHEREAS, The basketball players at Chattanooga Christian School epitomize all that is good in the ideal student-athlete; they have achieved notable success on the basketball court while displaying the utmost character both inside and outside of the gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, The stalwart dedication, strong work ethic, and many talents of this group of young men not only led to an outstanding season but also surely bode well for their future success; and

WHEREAS, It is altogether fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the Chattanooga Christian School Chargers for their grand success on the court and for serving as ambassadors of this State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we congratulate the Chargers of Chattanooga Christian School on earning the 2000-01 TSSAA Class A State Championship and join with their teachers, families, and friends in celebrating their remarkable success and strength of character.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish them all the best in every future endeavor, both inside and outside of the gymnasium.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.